

RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

MAR 05 2006

**Karen B. Tripp**  
Attorney-at-Law  
P.O. Box 1301  
Houston, Texas 77251-1301

(713) 658-9323 - Telephone  
(713) 658-9410 - Facsimile

# FAX

DATE: 3/5/06 Our Ref.: 10/681,979

TO: Examiner Philip C. Tucker

CO.: USPTO Art Unit 1712

FAX #: 571 273 8300 PHONE #: \_\_\_\_\_

FROM: Karen Tripp

RE: Response to Non-Final Office Action

NUMBER OF PAGES: 18 (including coversheet)

The information contained in this facsimile message is attorney privileged and confidential information intended for the use of the individual or entity named above. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or the employee or agent responsible to deliver it to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this fax in error, please immediately notify us by telephone, and return the original message to us at the above address via U.S. Postal Service.



MAR 05 2006

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: ) Examiner: TUCKER, PHILIP C.  
 Carl Joseph Thaemlitz ) Art Unit: 1712  
 Serial No.: 10/681,979 )  
 Filed: October 9, 2003 )  
 For: Electrically Conductive )  
 Oil-Based Mud )

Mail Stop Amendment  
 Commissioner for Patents  
 P.O. Box 1450  
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Certificate of Facsimile Transmission  
 571 273 8300

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being  
 facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and  
 Trademark Office on the date indicated below.

Mar. 5, 2006   
 Date Karen B. Tripp

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE**  
**TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION MAILED DECEMBER 14, 2005**

Dear Sir:

In response to the Non-Final Office Action mailed December 14, 2005, please amend the above-identified application as indicated below.

- **Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper;
- **Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 7 of this paper; and
- **Conclusion** begins on page 14 of this paper.

No fee is believed due for this amendment and no extension of time is believed needed for this response. However, the Commissioner is requested to grant any extension of time determined to be due and is authorized to charge the fee for same and any other fees that may be due for this application (including any fees determined to be due for the amendment) (except the issue fee) to undersigned's deposit account, 50-0807. If the account lacks sufficient funds, the fee may be charged to the undersigned's credit (or debit) card.

Please amend the application as follows: